OCT 02 2009

# BEFORE THE DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE STATE OF NEBRASKA

FILED

STATE OF NEBRASKA	)	
DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE,	)	•
PETITIONER,	)	CONSENT ORDER
VS.	, )	
CONNECTICUT GENERAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,	)	CAUSE NO. C-1779
RESPONDENT.	)	

In order to resolve this matter, the Nebraska Department of Insurance ("Department"), by and through its representative, Martin W. Swanson, and Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, ("Respondent"), mutually stipulate and agree as follows:

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 1. The Department has jurisdiction over the subject matter and Respondent pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §44-101.01, §44-303 and §44-4047, et seq.
- 2. Respondent was licensed as an insurer under the laws of Nebraska at all times material hereto.

## STIPULATIONS OF FACT

- 1. The Department initiated this administrative proceeding by filing a petition styled State of Nebraska Department of Insurance vs. Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, Cause Number C-1779 on September 8, 2009. A copy of the petition was served upon the Respondent, at Respondent's mailing address and agent for service of process registered with the Department, by certified mail, return receipt requested.
- 2. The petition alleges that Respondent violated Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 44-793, 44-1524, 44-1525(2) as a result of the following conduct:

- a. On November 20, 2008, Petitioner was sent a copy of a complaint from the Wisconsin Office of the Commissioner of Insurance regarding an issue with a claims payment for the Complainant. Barbara Ems ("Ems"), an Insurance Investigator with the Petitioner, contacted Respondent on November 26, 2008, for additional information to aid in her investigation.
- b. On December 22, 2008, Respondent replied and provided some information with regard to the claim. The claim handling appeared to be proper; however, Ems reviewed the policy itself and found that the mental health benefits provided under the policy did not provide the same benefits as for medical services for a physical health condition, as required under Nebraska law. In the policy, it indicated that out of pocket expenses for mental health treatment would not be paid at 100%, and there were limits for the amount of visits to a mental health services.
- c. On February 12, 2009, Ems wrote Respondent regarding this issue. On March 9, 2009 Respondent submitted a response to Ems. In its response, Respondent admitted that the policy was not in compliance with Nebraska law, and that the mental health benefits should be covered as any physical health condition. Respondent stated that they would change the document in April of 2009.
- d. Based upon this response, Ems contacted Respondent again and asked for "compliance instructions," per Respondent's previous letter, and to provide evidence that the master policy was filed in Nebraska and also asked what the company intended to do to inform policyholders.
- e. On April 3, 2009, Respondent admitted that "due to an oversight, the Contracts unit procedures were not adjusted. The Claim payment application of legislation is independent and unaffected by a contract error, and the legislation was applied."
- f. On April 28, 2009, Ems sent a letter to Respondent asking when the first master policy was filed with Petitioner and if they made any changes after the law change in 2000. On May 22, 2009, Respondent wrote back to Ems and indicated that the change in the policy was not applied until 2009, nearly nine years after the law had passed.
- 3. Respondent was informed of the right to a public hearing. Respondent waives that right, and enters into this Consent Order freely and voluntarily. Respondent understands and acknowledges that by waiving the right to a public hearing, Respondent also waives the right to confrontation of witnesses, production of evidence, and judicial review.

4. Respondent admits the allegations contained in the Petition and restated in Paragraph #2 above.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The conduct of Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, as alleged above, constitutes multiple violations of Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 44-793, 44-1524, 44-1525(2).

## **CONSENT ORDER**

It is therefore ordered by the Director of Insurance and agreed to by Respondent, that Respondent, Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, shall pay an administrative fine in the amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000). Respondent has thirty (30) days from the date of approval of this consent order by the Nebraska Director of Insurance to pay the fine. Additionally, Respondent shall by December 1, 2009, provide to the Department a claims report that will detail whether or not all mental health claims were paid properly per Nebraska statute. If money is owed for back claims, Respondent shall forward immediately any money owed for said claims to the policyholder and/or mental health benefits provider and pay any interest applicable for failure to pay said claims. Respondent shall report said progress on repayment to the Department of Insurance via written communication, bi-weekly until any and all outstanding claims are paid in full. The Department of Insurance may, if necessary, conduct a market conduct examination paid for by Respondent, to verify that the claims have been paid and/or adjusted properly. The Nebraska Department of Insurance shall retain jurisdiction of this matter for the purpose of enabling the Department to make application for such further orders as may be necessary.

In witness of their intention to be bound by this Consent Order, each party has executed this document by subscribing their signatures below.

M/M	
Martin W. Swanson, #20795	Connecticut General Life Insurance Company
Department of Insurance	
941 "O" Street, Suite 400	By: Carl Zuetter
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508	
(402) 471-2201	
9/29/09	9/28/09
Date	Date
	September 2009, Elizabeth Quattroch
personally appeared before me on be	chalf of Connecticut General Life Insurance Company and read
this Consent Order, executed the sa	me and acknowledged the same to be their voluntary act and
deed.	
	Notary Public Hedur
	rand reserve
	Notary Public
	NANCY J. LEDUC

NANCY J. LEDUC
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION EXPIRES AUG 31, 2014

# **CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Consent Order is adopted as the Final Order of the Nebraska Department of Insurance in the matter of State of Nebraska Department of Insurance vs. Connecticut General Life Insurance Company, Cause No. C-1779.

> STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Director of Insurance

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the executed Consent Order was served upon Respondent by mailing a copy to Respondent's registered mailing address of 1601 Chestnut Street, TL18A, Philadelphia, PA 19192-2362, by certified mail, return receipt requested, on this 2 day of 1) chropped, 2009.

I also hereby certify that a copy of the executed Consent Order was served upon Respondent by mailing a copy to Respondent's registered agent for service of process, Josephine A. Marchetti, at CIGNA Corporation, 1601 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19192, by certified mail, return receipt requested, on this 2 day of 1) CHOLOM, 2009.